

NEW JERSEY STATE AFL-CIO

106 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08608
(609) 989-8730
FAX (609) 989-8734
www.njaflcio.org



CHARLES WOWKANECH
PRESIDENT
LAUREL BRENNAN
SECRETARY-TREASURER
CHARLES H. MARCIANTE
PRESIDENT EMERITUS

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

JOYCE ALSTON	EDWARD FEDORKO	MATTHEW McCARTY	HETTY ROSENSTEIN
JOSEPH ASHTON	JOHN GERRITY	GERARD MEARA	MORRIS RUBINO
MICHAEL BARNES	THOMAS GIBLIN	JOHN MIRANTI	ANTHONY SANTO
JACK BERGACS	SHERRYLL GORDON	JUAN NEGRON	JOHN SHINN
ALLEN BYRON	CHARLES HALL, JR.	JOHN NICCOLAI, JR.	MILLY SILVA
NOEL CHRISTMAS	HARRY HARCHETTS	DANIEL O'CONNELL	JOSEPH SORESI
JOHN COSTA	JAMES KEHOE	GERALD OWENS	DERRICK THOMAS
JOSEPH DEMARK, JR.	CHRISTINE KERBER	RAYMOND POCINO	RICHARD TOLSON
RICHARD DRESSSEL	MICHAEL MALONEY	JOHN POTTS	ANN TWOMEY
FRANCELINE EHRET	DOMINICK MARINO	SUSAN RESCH	HARVEY WHILLE



May 26, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Thank you for the chance to offer these comments in the matter of AT&T Inc.'s proposed merger with Deutsche Telekom AG (WT Docket No. 11-65). The New Jersey chapter of the AFL-CIO fully endorses this merger because it will be good for U.S. workers.

AT&T has long demonstrated its commitment to union labor. The company has the largest full-time union workforce in the country, with 43,000 men and women. During its history, the company has held a neutral position with respect to allowing workers the choice of whether they want union representation. Even as it has acquired other companies, AT&T has left the door open to adding new employees to the union workforce, and 20,000 T-Mobile workers will now have the opportunity to be represented in the workplace if they choose. We see this as a positive step for working families, AT&T and the labor movement.

This merger will also create opportunities for new jobs in the industry. AT&T has committed to spending billions of dollars to expand infrastructure development and improvement of existing services as a result of the merger. The company will use private capital to finance its expansion and these projects will create new jobs along the way. Additionally, the merger will improve AT&T's strength within the industry and clear the way for future expansion that will spur economic activity and result in job creation.

We are also hopeful that as AT&T creates new jobs, other American industries will begin to spend the cash they've been saving and display the confidence necessary to help this country climb out of the recession. We ask that you consider the positive implications this merger will have on the nation's economy and working families and make a determination to approve this merger.

Sincerely,

Charles Wowkanech
President

Laurel Brennan
Secretary-Treasurer

CW:LB:jmn
OPEIU:153

c: Commissioner Michael Copps, Commissioner Robert McDowell, Commissioner Mignon Clyburn,
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

"The Voice for Working Families in New Jersey"